

DM

The Jumpstart on an Elite Career

High tech, complex cutting edge systems and computers.



Illustrator-Draftsmen (DM) prepare original art, technical illustrations and graphics for briefings, training aids and publications at Navy and joint service commands. All openings that become available are provided via portfolio submission only. Experience is mandatory for selection. Previous experience in drafting or graphic arts is required.

What they do

The duties performed by DMs include:

- Operating digital graphics, CAD, desktop publishing computer systems
- Using a variety of art media, including pencil, pen, brush, airbrush, inks, and paints
- Using freehand, mechanical, photo-mechanical and computer-generated lettering
- Preparing art and composing type for reproduction
- Preparing technical drawings and audiovisual materials, such as maps, charts, 35mm slides, overhead transparencies and television projectuals
- Operating audiovisual projection equipment
- Operating photographic and graphic arts reproduction equipment
- Since duties vary according to billet, DMs may also perform duties normally done by LI, JO and PH ratings

Credit Recommendations

The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the vocational certificate or lower-division bachelor's/associate's degree categories for courses taken in this rating on basic drawing, visual design, technical drafting and basic techniques of commercial art.

Career Path After Recruit Training

No Navy schools are available for this rating, however, several DOD schools are available through the Defense Information (DINFOS) School at Fort Meade, MD. Interested personnel create and submit a portfolio to the Enlisted Community Manager in Millington, TN. Upon approval, qualified personnel learn the basic skills required for the Illustrator-Draftsman rating through on-the-job training. DMs are assigned to major staffs ashore and afloat, and serve in the fleet aboard repair ships, aircraft carriers and amphibious ships. Petty Officers maintain an even sea/shore rotation; Chief Petty Officers usually remain on shore stations.



Qualifications and Interests

Creativity, curiosity, artistic ability and an interest in ideas and information are very important qualities for people interested in this rating. They should also have a high degree of manual dexterity, especially in using the tools of their craft, and an ability to do detailed work. A strong sense of personal discipline and integrity is mandatory for this rating. Individuals must be U.S. citizens and able to qualify for security clearances. Other helpful qualities are a good memory, competence in arithmetic, the ability to keep records, do repetitive tasks and get along and work well with other people.

Working Environment

Most DMs are assigned duties indoors in clean, office environments. For the most part they work alone or in small groups, with little supervision. Their work is mostly mental, although it requires the physical translation of ideas into graphic form.

Opportunities

Very few men and women serve in this rating. At present there are many Navy personnel performing these duties. However, opportunities are open to strongly motivated individuals with superior graphics and artistic skills.

Related Civilian Jobs-Dept. of Labor Dictionary of Occupational Titles

Graphic Designer
Art Director
Creative Director
Audiovisual Production Specialist
Technical Illustrator

Since Navy programs and courses are revised at times, the information contained on this rating card is subject to change.

Illustrator-Draftsman
DM

accelerate your life™

All personnel now receive sea pay at sea (E-1 to E-9)

NAVY